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## Abstract

The present invention relates to a communication network and a corresponding method for operating the communication network that has a packet switched protocol based cellular telephone network (1) comprising a first layer (3) for transferring signalling information assigned to a telephone call being processed by the communication network, a second layer (4) for transferring payload information assigned to the telephone call and interface means (20) for coupling the cellular telephone network (1) to a further network (2), the interface means (20) comprising signalling information exchange function between the cellular telephone network (1) and the further network (2) and payload information exchange function between the cellular telephone network (1) and the further network (2), the first layer (3) and the second Nayer (4) of the cellular telephone network (1) being coupled to the interface means (20), wherein the second layer (4) of the cellular telephone network (1) transfers the payload information of the telephone call to and from the interface means (20) on a direct route (11) assigned to the telephone call within the second layer (4).

25 (figure 1)